

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE HEALTH
OF THE
BOROUGH OF FOWEY.
1944.



+++++

This Report, as in 1943, is of 'interim' nature and made as brief as possible for economy reasons. It is again being type-written instead of printed.

STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	2,979
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population	1,947
Number of inhabited houses	637
Rateable Value (March 1944)	£16,760.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£67. 3. 7d.

Social conditions have not altered materially during the year, but there was a considerable augmentation of the 'temporary resident' population in the form of U.S. Navy personnel, who were encamped in the Borough area and undergoing training for 'D' Day. For the first six months of the year, at any rate, the population of the Borough was practically doubled.

The figures for China-clay export began to shew an upward trend in the latter half of the year, though, of course, the root causes of the depression still remained.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births (Legitimate)	17 Males; 19 Females.
Live Births (Illegitimate)	None.
Total Live Births	36
Live Birth-Rate per 1,000 of Resident Population	18.7
Annual Birth-Rate for England & Wales	17.6
Annual Birth-Rate for 148 'Smaller Towns'	20.9
Still Births	None
Total Number of Deaths (all causes)	32
Death-Rate per 1,000 of estimated Resident Population	16.69
Annual Death-Rate (all causes) for England & Wales	11.6
Annual Death-Rate for 148 'Smaller Towns'	12.4
Deaths from Puerperal causes	None
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	1
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	7

Classification of Deaths during 1944.

1 Male from Pulmonary Tuberculosis
 1 Male from 'Syphilitic Diseases' i.e. locomotor ataxy
 1 Male from Cancer of Mouth
 1 Male & 2 Females from Cancer of Stomach
 2 Males & 1 Female from 'Cancer of other sites'
 1 Female from Diabetes
 2 Males & 1 Female from 'Intracranial Vascular Lesions'
 3 Males & 4 Females from 'Heart Disease'
 2 Males & 1 Female from 'Other diseases of Circulatory System'
 1 Male from Bronchitis
 1 Male from Pneumonia
 1 Female from 'Other Respiratory Diseases'
 1 Female from 'Other Digestive Disorders'
 1 Female from Nephritis
 1 Male from Suicide
 3 Males from 'all other causes'

Total Deaths 32 (Males 19; Females 13)

Diseases Notified.

In April, May and June there was a minor epidemic of Measles of a mild type. Numbers notified for these three months were 7, 18 and 36 respectively.

In addition to these notifications there was one case of Puerperal Pyrexia and one case of Whooping-cough.

M E T E O R O L O G I C A L D A T A .

	<u>RAINFALL</u>	(average)	<u>SUNSHINE</u>	(average)
January	3.84"	3.3"	42 hours	59.5 hours
February	0.9	2.20	88	82.7
March	0.29	1.68	169.6	129.1
April	2.03	1.38	153.8	179.6
May	0.54	3.36	241.6	201.5
June	2.63	1.87	182.3	205
July	2.88	2.87	103.4	173.4
August	2.27	3.00	222.2	138.7
September	2.08	3.21	161.4	143
October	5.38	3.50	128.6	107.1
November	9.80	3.75	39.7	67.3
December	3.00	4.01	66.3	56.6

Total Rainfall for the year 35.64" (Average 34.13")
 Thus it will be seen that the total Rainfall was 1.5" above the average, but it was distributed in an uneven manner, as the months of February, March and May showed a deficit of 5.51"; and the months of October and November showed an increase of 7.93" above the average.

The month of November had the record precipitation of 9.80".

WATER.

In the course of the year twelve samples were sent for analysis at intervals and from various parts of the Council's undertaking. The majority of these reports were entirely satisfactory, but, in two instances it was noted that there was evidence of "excremental types of micro-organisms". This occurred at a time when the chlorinating plant was not working at 100% efficiency and steps were immediately taken to remedy this defect, with the result that subsequent analyses gave a satisfactory picture in regard to freedom from excremental micro-organisms.

In the spring of 1944 the question of the quantity of the supply became critical, which state of affairs was due to two main causes :-

- (a) Deficiency of rainfall, and this after several years below the average.
- (b) Population being at least doubled by the advent of U.S. Navy personnel under training for 'D' Day.

Strict economy measures were put into operation and an emergency supply was inaugurated (by means of an N.F.S. pump) from a stream. The water therefrom was vigorously chlorinated in order to be sure of its potability when put into the mains, and two additional schemes were opened up, one of which, however, proved disappointing in regard to yield. There was yet a third scheme under contemplation, but, owing to labour difficulties, was still incomplete at the end of the year.

With the aid of these measures it was found just possible to weather the storm. Conditions were, of course, entirely abnormal and unlikely to recur, but it will certainly be necessary to seek some means of permanently augmenting the water supply.

ANTI-DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

As in previous years propaganda work in this connection has been kept up by means of posters and leaflets.

In all, 47 inoculations were performed, 36 of these being under 5 years of age and 11 between 5 and 15.

Of the 381 children in the Borough it is estimated that 93% of the under 5 group have been immunised up to the end of 1944; and 70% of the children between 5 and 15.

WILLIAM H. KING,

M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P.

(Medical Officer of Health,
Borough of Fowey.)

